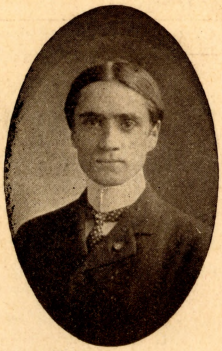
The Adhesive.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE IN THE INTEREST OF PHILATELY.

VOL. II. MAY, 1901. No. 5.



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The Adhesive.
A Monthly Magazine in the Interest of Philately.

Vol. II. MAY, 1901. No. 5.

BUILDING A COLLECTION.

BY ALBERT H. HALL.

Are you building a collection of stamps or just gathering one? There is a vast difference. A schoolboy will gather together every kind of a stamp that he can lay his hands on, paste them, hit or miss, into an old account book, and then stop. He has gathered a collection. The collection builder is as careful in his work as is the builder of a house. You have often watched a mason laying brick. How he chooses each one, balancing and turning it to be sure that it is even in shape, sound and whole. How neatly he spreads the mortar, just enough and not too much. How carefully he lays the brick in place with plumb and level and gentle tap of the trowel. And when the work is done the building is a thing of beauty and pride. That is the way a stamp collection should be built. Each stamp should be chosen for its condition or for its relation to the rest of the collection, and should be mounted with neatness and with care.

WHAT TO COLLECT.

Collect everything that costs you nothing or only time and labor of exchanging. No man may tell you that you can collect only this and that. Revenues, envelope stamps, postcards, telegraph stamps, locals, Seebecks, reprints, remainders, speculatives, anything connected in the slightest degree with our hobby, if it drifts into your hands keep it. If you are limited in purse, keep your money for the stamps you need, but what you can get without money, get and enjoy.

Foreign correspondence had put me in possession of quantities of duplicates cataloging two cents each, for which I had given the stamps rescued from the mail of a business house. I ran across a man who had a lot of foreign revenues. I traded stamp for stamp to the extent of about a hundred. He got a hundred different foreign postage stamps and I have a hundred different foreign revenues which cost me only the time and trouble of collecting them and which always interests my friends by their novelty.

GENERAL OR SPECIAL.

Go neither to the extreme of schoolboy generalizing or of scientific specializing. Combine the two for your own sake. Take everything that comes and put it neatly in its place, it will round out your collection and some day you will want it to compare with something else. Specialize in one country at a time for the practice in watching for details Take some one of the older and smaller European countries where most of the stamps are common and where the few that you will have to buy are not expensive.

WHAT TO BUY.

Decide what you can spare from your income, weekly or monthly, and spend it intelligently. If you are limited, as are ninety nine out of a hundred of us, here is a good plan. Of current issues gather all you can by exchanging. If you can afford to buy enough to fill out the sets, do so. Of older issues buy at least one of each as a specimen of the design. The cheapest will do quite as well as the dearest. Thus in Chile you will doubtless get the 1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 of 1878 to 1900 by exchanging. If you can afford them, buy the 30, 50 and 1 peso to complete the set. They catalogue at 80 cents. Then buy the 5 centavo brown red of 1853, printed in London, price 15 cents. To compare with this buy the 5 red of 1854 printed in Chile, price 2 cents to 6 cents. Add to these the 5 red of 1867, price 2 cents, the 5 dull lake of

1877, price 2 cents and you will have ready to show to your non-collecting friend all the designs that Chile has used, and the whole of the current set. If you should happen to add without much expense any of the revenues, telegraph, dues, registrations, envelopes, wrappers or cards, so much the better for the interest of the exhibit and for your own pleasure.

USED AND UNUSED.

Don't confine yourself to used stamps, neither to unused. Take them as they come, using some discretion in their purchase. Of old issues the used stamps are always cheaper, except in the case of remainders. In current issues unused stamps are often nearly as cheap and much better in appearance. Particularly in the stamps of your own country have all that you can unused. My advice to a beginner about to spend his first money on his collection would be, don't buy used foreign stamps yet Go to your post office and get every stamp that you can afford to buy. There is no excuse for a used two cent United States or Canada in the album of any collector however poor. Unused low values cost little now but when you part with them fifty years hence they will have increased marvelously. Or if you transmit your collection to your son or grandson he will have old issues to be proud of and not a mess of rubbish. Did some one hand down to you a daubed 3 cent imperforate of 1851, worth 2 cents? Don't you wish it were unused? It would have cost the donor 3 cents in its time and now is worth $1.50.

NEW ISSUES.

Don't be afraid to collect new issues because there are no spaces for them in your album. In a few years a new edition of the album will appear with spaces for them. Get your stamps first and your album afterward. It is easier that way. Every collector should have two albums,—one the printed form for old issues, the other loose sheets of punched paper in a cover, for new issues and odds and ends. Buy the new issues, unused, as they appear—at least samples of the low values to show the design. Keep abreast of the times and ahead of your fellow collectors. Have something to show them that they have not got. So you will build a collection that will give you a reputation, and a reputation that will give you pride.

AMY LOUISE SWIFT.

The following decidedly unique advertisement recently appeared in the columns of a French journal :—

Matrimony :— A collector of postage stamps possessing 12,544 specimens desires to contract a marriage with a young lady, also a collector who has the blue Mauritius penny stamp of 1847. No other need apply.

Methinks that unless this collector changes his ideas concerning the qualifications necessary in a wife, he is destined to remain a bachelor all his days. There are but eight copies known of the blue 2p Mauritius 1847, and not one of them is owned by a "young lady," so unless some forlorn and lonesome damsel should purchase one on purpose to make herself eligible there is small likelihood of his advertisement eliciting a single reply. Of course it is possible a yet unknown copy of the stamp may be in existence, but in view of its well known rarity and value this is hardly probable.

While I have not gone to the extent of actually collecting the proprietary cancellations which Mr. Jenney has been telling us in late numbers of the *Adhesive*, I have yet saved what few chanced to fall into my hands, more especially the type-set varieties, for these look so much like surcharges that it really seems a pity to pass them by. I find my album contains a few such varieties (all type-set) not mentioned by Mr. Jenney, and add a list of them for him to fit out with full titles:—

On 1-8c. the date first, and then "F. B. D Co." two lines.

On 5-8c "M. M Co." on one line, year underneath (1898)

Another the same except that type is much larger. Year is 1899.

5-8c, "P. P. Co." and date. Two lines

5-8c, "S. R. Co." and date. Three lines.

5-8c "J. E. L. Co." and date. Two lines. Very large red letters. Rubber type.

2½c, "K. & M. Co," "Ambler," and date. Three lines.
2½c, "W. & R. Co." and date. Two lines.
2½c, "M. J. B. Co." and year (1899.) Two lines.
2½c, "L. E. P. Med. Co." and date. Two lines.

I also have on the 5-8c the "Emerson Drug Co." cancellation which Mr. Jenney listed on the 1-4c; this latter is in my album also, and I presume the entire set of values may be found with similar decoration. The "J. E. L. Co." specimen I take to be the "J. Ellwood Lee Co." as the letters are sprawly enough to be a good match for the design which has made the firm philatelically famous.

So far as I am aware at time of writing this, the question of surcharges on Australian issues has not been officially settled in any way, but some Tasmanian daily papers which reached me in March gave later news on the subject than any stamp journal has given so far. The item was a report of the Inter-State Postal Conference held in Melbourne February 13 to 16, and stated that while the full details were withheld from publication, it was known surely that the authorities saw no reason why the various post offices should not be amalgamated on March 1, and all stamps used after that date would probably be surcharged "A. C." It was also said that distinct Federal stamps were likely to be printed within a few months. I had hoped to receive later news before the time to send in my copy for this month, but unfortunately none has reached me, so I give the above for what it may (or may not) be worth.

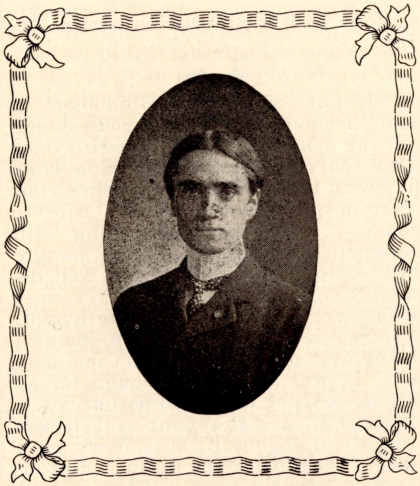
Have you noticed what a variety of prices is attached to the new farthing surcharge on the one shilling Bermuda? At first the speculators who so impolitely seized the entire issue were content to get 25c apiece for the stamps, which was more than enough, considering that they cost only a half-cent apiece; the next time I saw a price put on them they were supposed to be worth 50c, but a few days ago a dealer advertised them for 40c. That looks as if the speculation wasn't quite as golden a one as the sharks had expected it to be. Perhaps if we wait a year or two we shall be able to get a specimen for our collections at decent valuation. Possibly not, of course, but it is often so in such cases, (as in that of the half-cent Canadian Jubilee) and you know that "history repeats itself." As far as I am concerned, I'm planning to wait for my copy until the repetition season begins.

Collectors who are also dabblers in amateur photography have an advantage over the general run of philatelists once in a while, one of the whiles being when they want to have a distant brother view a certain specimen they hardly care to send him. Sometimes in trading with foreigners occasion may arise to inquire about some oddity you can not well describe for recognition; foreign revenues for instance, or a seal of the government. In such a case it is very easy to make a photograph of the specimen, and send that. It will be plain enough for all purposes except for examination for a counterfeit. Use the stamp as if it was a negative, laying it face down on a sheet of sensitive paper in the printing frame under plain glass. When printed deep enough, tone and finish. The result will be a reversed picture of the stamp. To get the correct form, print again, using the first print as the negative, and you will have a perfect picture of the stamp. Tone and finish this second print, and there you are! I have found this a really convenient bit of knowledge, and though it may not be new to many of my readers, I venture to think that it will be to some.

For some months one dealer has advertised "Peark" stamps. Do you suppose he meant to say "Perak"?

THE AMERICAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.

The membership committee have prepared a circular letter, to be sent out, the aim being to interest non-members, and for increasing the ranks of the association. All members are requested to assist in its circulation. We often hear it said that the American Philatelic Association is autocratic, aristocratic, arbitrary, etc., but the murmurings come from those who are generally of the disgruntled class. No philatelic society is perfect, and there is no question but that the A. P. A. has its faults, but our opinion is that there is no better organization of its kind. We do not institute any comparison between it and local societies, of which there are several good ones, and regret that we are not situated so as to make use of their benefits.



THOMAS L. ELDER.

Thomas L. Elder, of Pittsburg, Pa., was born in Armstrong county, in the Keystone state, some twenty-six years ago. He has been a collector since he was eight years. Although he once had a penchant for stamps, he has of late given more attention to ancient and mediæval coins and gem stones, importing an interesting collection from London, England.

Mr. Elder is a member of the Philatelic Sons of America, American Numismatic Association, Pennsylvania Society Sons of American Revolution, and vice-president of the American Society of Curio Collectors, the new general collectors' society founded by Roy Farrell Greene of Arkansas City, Kansas, for collectors of other than stamps.

My friend is enthusiastic over things archæologic and numismatic, and also interested in genealogy, music, art and literature. While it is true that he is now located in New York, in the employ of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, at 434 Broadway, he still claims Pittsburg as his home, and says that New York is "not what it is cracked up to be." But, all the same, whether he writes from New York, Pittsburg, or any old place, he is a pleasant correspondent.

The likeness given herewith is up-to-date, and will no doubt be appreciated by the ADHESIVE readers.

HENRY A. CHAPMAN.

PERTINENT PARAGRAPHS.

EDGAR S. BRIGHTMAN.

Philatelic scribes and editors are continually using the abbreviations MS. and MSS. indiscriminately, without any regard for their meaning. I have received letters from more than one editor requesting "an instructive MSS.", and others have expressed a desire for me "to submit no more MS. until further notice." Such barbarisms are doubtless the result of thoughtlessness rather than ignorance. Of course everyone knows that MS. is singular, and MSS. plural; but it would be much better if this knowledge was used, and not allowed to repose in innocuous desuetude.

In the April ADHESIVE there was an article on the low values of the Omaha stamps, wherein the writer expressed his ignorance of the scene portrayed on the five cent stamps of that issue, "Fremont on the Rocky Mountains." The picture is not historically accurate, but probably it is intended to represent what is known as Fremont's Peak, discovered and ascended by our hero in 1842. On account of his intrepid boldness in exploration he was called "The Pathfinder of the Rockies," and well deserved the distinction of being pictured on a stamp.

Full many a time and oft have I included in my list of wants the seven cent Hayti 1891 series, first type, with straight branches to the palm, a stamp cataloging only a quarter, but as many times I have received in lieu of the desired copy, a specimen of the 1893-95 issue, with drooping branches. Not only do the small insignificant dealers do this, but the largest in New England have served me thus. Judging by my experience, the stamp is much scarcer than its moderate catalogue valuation would seem to indicate.

Yes, even in this time of unexampled prosperity we collectors have more than one bone to pick with dealers. One of them, who professed in his ads to have a large stock, and who solicited want lists, returned mine, saying that every stamp was out of stock, and I am sure that my list was not made up of unreasonably scarce stamps, none listing above

seventy five cents. If a dealer really has a fairly complete stock, let him advise collectors of the fact, but if there are only a few varieties which he keeps on hand, the least he could do, is not to advertise more than he has.

What are the signs of the times? What stamps are going to rise? These questions are being asked daily; and if we can depend on Father Scott, the great boom will be in U. S.; if our authority is Nankivell, the prize country is the Transvaal; if we believe the "man in the street" U. S. colonies are the coming stamps. Of all these opinions the gist seems to be, collect everything, for there is to be a rise all around. It is positive that a large percentage of the popular stamps are listed too low. However I don't object to that; do you?

A FEW NOTES FROM AUSTRALIA.

ALFRED H. PETTIFER.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., Mch. 12, '01.

After all we are not to have any surcharge of A. C. or anything else. The Post Office was officially taken over to the Commonwealth or Federal Government on March 1st. Our Local Philatelic Club waited on the Federal P. M. G. and laid their views before him *re* several matters of vital importance to Philately, notably, that all old dies, impressions, etc., be destroyed, no stamps sold below face value, all stamps given away or sent to Berne be marked Specimen, no more reprints, and several other matters of minor *importance.*

We are to have a Commemorative stamp, ½d in value, when the Duke of York arrives. Design like present halfpenny with Queen's head removed and H. R. H's head instead; it is to be current till new issue for Australia is ready, which in well informed quarters is said to be some four or five years. There are many obstacles in the way yet. We are all dividing our revenue and Postal issues in each colony, as fiscal revenue belongs to the state or colony, while Postal revenue belongs to the Federal government. Victoria has made the biggest changes as all her postage stamps were available for revenue, so she has reissued the old 1881-83 types in new colors for Postage, all except 1½d, 9d and 1s 6d have been altered, the 2½d and 5d are of the current type, with "Postage" reengraved on instead of "Stamp Duty," the ½d is in green, small, recent type. The 1d red, 2d violet, 2½d dark blue, 3d yellow on orange, 4d bistre, 5d chocolate, 6d green, 1s yellow, 2s blue on pink paper, 5s blue and red on white, 1½d and 9d remain unchanged as "Stamp Duty" does not appear on them, the stamps will only be available for fiscal use; no longer available for postage 1d, 6d and 1s locally printed and 3s English print.

In Tasmania they are using the 4d plate type stamps surcharged REVENUE, also the 2s 6d, 5s and 10s Dragon type and 20s small De La Rue type. We in N. S. W. have always had our set of revenues separate. New Zealand seems to be going ahead in stamp issuing; the new 1½d Khahi stamp is out, locally printed on watermarked paper. And also the new universal (though why universal I can't account; it wo'nt carry a letter to this colony or United States or any foreign land) stamp is out and a very pretty stamp it is too. The London printings have started to rise here, although there was a great quantity sent out. They must be held by some speculators. The local print of it is in a deeper color and watermarked and perforated 10. A correspondent says he has seen the 4d green old type on the thick watermarked N. Z. paper. A good stamp is the 6d local print, it is bringing double face, used here now, like our 6d green.

Scott's new catalogue has reached here, and we don't think much of the binding; the prices seem much about the same.

Our new paper seems to be making a succes of it here,—*The Australian Journal of Philately*, and is bringing its energetic publishers into some prominence.

The President of our Club has returned from the war,—Colonel Williams, P. M. O. Medical Corps, and has a fine lot of good things, including three sheets of 6d rose "V. R. I."

We are talking of holding an exhibition here on the occasion of the Duke of York's visit. Our last one, held last September, was a great success.

We wish the ADHESIVE every success.

THE ADHESIVE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN PHILATELY.

Publisher and Editor,
HENRY A. CHAPMAN, Rocky Hill, Conn.

Associate Editors.
ALBERT H. HALL, Cambridge, Mass.
EDGAR S. BRIGHTMAN, E. Whitman, Mass.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

United States, Canada and Mexico,	30c.
All other countries,	45c.

ADVERTISING RATES.

SPACE.	1 Mo.	3 Mos.	6 Mos.	1 Year.
One inch	$0.40	$1.00	$1.80	$3.25
Two inches	.75	1.80	3.25	5.00
Half-Column	1.20	3.25	5.00	8.75
One Column	2.00	5.00	8.75	15.75
One Page	3.50	8.75	15.75	28.00

Exchange and trade notices, one insertion of 30 words, 12c, three or more insertions, 10c each: one year, $1; business cards—see department.

All copy, to insure insertion, should reach the publisher the 18th of the month preceding that of issue.

EXCHANGES.

Two copies of exchanges desired, one to be sent to the publisher and one to A. H. Hall, 16 Gray street, Cambridge, Mass.

Entered at the post office at Rocky Hill, Conn. as second class matter, Feb. 16, 1900.

ROCKY HILL, CONN., MAY, 1901.

A HANDSOME VOLUME,

BOUND VOLUMES of THE ADHESIVE for 1900, indexed, in purple cloth, with gilt title on the front, $1.50 postpaid. Unbound 75c.

Box 72. ROCKY HILL, CONN.

A SUGGESTION.

It is a well known fact that in this country, only those who have passed away are honored by having their likenesses on postage stamps. In view of the fact that a new issue is projected for the United States, why not place the likeness of Benjamin Harrison on one value? As two members of the family have been presidents, it would seem as though one of them at least should be honored, and as Benjamin held the presidential office a full term, besides being the more prominent, he ought to have the preference.

OUR LONDON LETTER.

Owing to the early issue of our April number, the usual London letter was absent, but it appears this month.

ORIGINAL MATTER.

We have omitted many readable extracts from our exchanges this month in deference to contributors, who have the call.

A JUST OPINION.

The editor of the *American Philatelic Magazine* has a good article relative to the "Standard Catalogue." He thinks it indispensable and that a good deal of adverse criticism of it is unjust. He also thinks, on the other hand, that the Scott Company should leave out its own ads. if it expects competing dealers to handle it. That is the whole truth in a nutshell. If it is a "Standard Catalogue", leave out the ads. If it is the price-list of the Scott concern, which it undoubtedly is, then leave in the ads and take off "Standard." Then no one should find fault with it any more than with anyone's price list.

NOTICE.

Concerning Back Numbers.

Until July 1, 1901, the price of Vol. I of THE ADHESIVE will be as follows:—

Unbound, indexed	$ .75
Bound, indexed	1.50
After July 1, unbound	1.25
After July 1, bound	2.00

We have succeeded in having a few January, 1901, numbers returned, so that we can now furnish a few single copies. Several 1900 copies are unobtainable except in complete files. While they last, a few can be had at 25 cents each, as also of January, February and March, 1901. April and May, 1901, can be had for 5c. All in good condition. Single copies of Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 12 unobtainable. Any one having spare copies, please inform us at convenience.

THE *Buckeye Philatelist* is quite a neat journal and costs but 15c a year. Published at Columbus, Ohio.

Subscribe to the ADHESIVE.

WITH THE MAGAZINES

BY E. R. ALDRICH.

Writing as I do during the first week of the Month it can not be avoided that some article, perhaps the one most important of the whole month, may be overlooked or not seen. To attempt to even casually glance through thirty or forty publications in three or four days would be quite sufficient work for one who had naught else to do, but when it must be done at the odd moments one has at his command it must needs be done less thoroughly than it should be. This will explain why two articles were not noticed in last month's notes, the first a well written article by MacClung Strickler on "How to make a stamp collection" being an especially good essay on the subject to commend to a beginners or to a new collector. In the April 6 issue of "*The Saturday Post*" I. A. Mekeel refers to this article in a good sized ad for his *Weekly*. The other article I had not met with was by Auditor Castle of the Post office department on "Some Perils of the Postal Service" The article is largely given up to the money order department, which he maintains is not more than self-sustaining, published statistics to the contrary notwithstanding.

In the April number of *Farm, Stock and Home* considerable editorial space is given to the Postal Parcel Question and the German service thus spoken of:—

The postage on parcels weighing 11 lbs is only 2½ cents of our money, and for heavier ones 3¾ cents. Trees and shrubs can be sent by mail at these rates, and goods may be sent C. O. D as by our express companies. The government is responsible for lost parcels, but up to a certain limit only. In cities and larger towns there are parcel post delivery wagons, and in fact all possible means are adopted to insure the safe and speedy as well as cheap transportation and delivery of parcels It is argued that the European parcel's post system would not be possible in the United States because of their large area, but experience in Germany proves that a majority of parcels were sent within a radius of 10 miles, and less than 5 per cent were sent farther than 150 miles.

But a distance schedule in the United States could be adopted at rates vastly below what is now paid. That the parcel carrying is done at a loss is disproven by the fact the German post-office department made surplus earnings in 1900 of over 12½ million dollars.

Everybody's Magazine for April has two articles which, when the results predicted by them come to pass, might and probably would have considerable influence on mail service of the future E. P. Lyle Jr. writes of Jean Berlier's projected tunnel connecting Europe with Africa and W. A. Anthony explains Dr. Pupin's new system of transmission of electricity whereby trans-atlantic telephoning will be accomplished.

St. Nicholas as usual has good things on its stamp page. The Malta farthing is illustrated and compared with the Hawaii two cent. Should Edward's head decorate a new series for Great Britain and colonies the prediction is made that those who intend to draw twentieth century lines on their collection will abandon such thoughts. I clip what is said of Greece:—

The stamps of Greece do not correspond with any printed catalogue. There is so much difference in these stamps that the records of their issues are so defective that no one has been able up to the present time to make a good catalogue of them.

From the "Rise of Berlin," by Sidney Whitman in the April *Harper's* I clip:

That the postal service of Berlin has long been the model (as yet unattainable) for the rest of Europe is well known. But it is not equally matter of common knowledge that the excellence of the Berlin postal arrangments of yesterday no longer satisfies the postal authorities of today. The latest innovation has been a still more frequent clearing of the letter-boxes and a more rapid delivery than ever. The letter boxes in the principal thoroughfares are now cleared every fifteen minutes during the busy hours of the day. The rapid delivery of letters recently even resulted in saving human life. A girl determined to commit suicide, wrote to her parents of her intentions and posted the letter, which was delivered within an hour of posting This enabled the father to hurry off in a cab to the spot in the Thier garten which his daughter had mentioned as the place where her body would be found, to catch her alive, box her ears and send her home.

On the side, Augustine Berrell's "Down the Rhine"—the third instalment being in the April *Century*, is interesting reading, as is also an illustrated article on "Making England's King" in *Frank Leslie's* and "His Majesty, King Edward VII," in *Munsey's*.

In concluding I add the following clipped from the *A. O. U. W. Guide* of March 28.

There is a harvest in store for the philatelists. The death of Queen Victoria will bring about changes in 1,300 postage stamps issued by 64 states and colonies that are ruled by Great Britain. The portrait of Victoria will be replaced by that of Edward VII.

ADHESIONS.

The *Star Monthly* has a stamp department headed "Perforations."

Queensland lost about $600 on its "patriotic stamp" scheme.

Alfonso XIII is fifteen years old this month. He was born six months after his father's death.

Rather straining—a commemorative set on account of a new post office building at Bucharest, Roumania.

Philatelic Literature and *Philatelic Monthly Referee* are two new English journals.

Mekeel's for April 18 reprints Mr. Osgood's article on "Cancellations" from THE ADHESIVE with due credit.

The *Quaker City Philatelist* has a new printer, and although small, is much neater.

The Postal Card Society of America has our thanks for a copy of its "Official Souvenir."

In view of the "federation," why was a new 2½d West Australian stamp recently issued?

A scarce philatelic paper is said to be the *Garden City Philatelist*, Vol. I, No. 9. Mr. H. E. Deats has it.

Abbreviations are all well enough sometimes, but too much condensing is productive oftentimes of mistakes, and consequent future squabbles ensue.

Mr. Albert C. Stewart, manager of the Toledo Stamp Co., has become the possessor of two pairs of the $1.00 green documentary of the 1898 issue, used, and *not* rouletted horizontally.

Redfield's Post has always suffered from poor proof-reading. In one issue lately we find "farcial," "cannons" for "canons," and Samuel Jory is called "Dr." instead of "Mr."

It seems queer that a Canadian journal should tell us that Newfoundland was the first locality to have King Edward's picture on stamps. How about the 17c New Brunswick of 1860?

The *Pan-American* bi-colored stamps are with us, and we can secure a handsome set of six stamps for 30c and can "collect the current stamps, used" much cheaper.

"Hints for Beginners" in *Stamp* are always interesting. "The Senior" who writes them is old enough to vote, which cannot be said of many in this country who *advise* the juniors.

It is said that with a machine one man can cancel from 35,000 to 40,000 stamped letters in an hour. We have serious doubts about it; 10 cancellations in a second would amount to 36,000 an hour.

Stamp journals blunder badly over Queen Victoria's first name (Alexandrina) and over the present Queen's name (Alexandra). Both are misprinted "Alexandria."

Redfield's Weekly Philatelic Post has a new editor, Mr. L. G. Quackenbush, and his work will tend to improve that journal, where improvement was needed. Mr. Q. gives THE ADHESIVE a kind recommend.

In *Ewen's Weekly Philatelic News* for March 23, is reprinted Mr. Thiele's installment on sheets of stamps which appeared in our March ADHESIVE. Due credit is given, which our neighbors in King Edward's domain do not always vouchsafe.

The *American Journal of Philately* is indignant over what it justly designates "impudence." The *Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser* of Birmingham, England, passes off as original the article on Hamburg stamps, taken from the Catalogue for Advanced Collectors. The British journal has indulged in this practice before.

LONDON LETTER.

FRED J. MELVILLE.

Philatelically the past month has been the busiest of the season here. News is abundant and the trade itself would appear to be revived if one may judge from the number of customers who are to be seen at the counters of the various London dealers. There has been much to excite interest in the stamp collector of recent days.

On Saturday, February 23rd, two large gatherings of philatelists were held in London. The first was the Exhibition of the International Philatelic Union and the second, a lecture on "14,000 miles in Quest of V. R. I. Stamps," by Bertram W. H. Poole.

The exhibition was one of special interest, more from the fact that it was a pioneer exhibition than from the class of exhibits. Mr. Oldfield, the President, told me that the Union had organized the exhibition in order to set the example to other societies. One of the main objects of the display was to represent the medium collectors rather than the wealthy enthusiast.

Hundreds of people crowded into the rooms of the Philatelic Society at Effingham House to see the stamps, and in the opinions of the President and Mr. T. H. Hinton, the energetic Secretary, the attendance was a record one. Unfortunately the accommodation provided in the rooms of the Philatelic Society was all too small and the crush at times was so great that one could scarcely give the stamps due attention.

The grand prize of the Exhibition was awarded to Mr. Vernon Roberts for a very fine display of triangular Capes, chiefly in blocks, and including some single specimens and a pair of the rare errors. Another notable exhibit was that of Mr. L. L. R. Hansburg's Sydney Views. Mr. R. Frentzel showed a very good collection of rare Mexican locals, and Mr. W. Dorning Benton (President of the Manchester Philatelic Society), displayed single specimens of three values and twenty-one entire sheets of the first issue (June, 1862) of Roumania. One of the chief curiosities of the exhibition was Mr. B. W. Warhurst's Transvaal surcharged stamp, which was overprinted TRANSVRAL in error, and for which I am informed, a very large sum was offered during the course of the exhibition.

Among the well known philatelists whom I saw there were Mr. M. P. Castle, J. P., Mr. E. D. Bacon, Mr. Ehrenbach and Mr. Charles J. Phillips. Most of the city dealers were to be seen there at various times during the day. On the whole the exhibition has proved a great success and has undoubtedly served a useful purpose.

The other stampic function held on the same day was Mr. Poole's lecture on his experiences as War-Issue Correspondent for *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.* It was my privilege to take the chair when Mr. Poole addressed a larger audience in Clapham Hall. The lecturer is young and has an attractive manner of speaking, which, when used to describe his remarkable experiences in South Africa held the interest of the audience throughout his discourse. He displayed many relics of his long trip and these were not confined to V. R. I. stamps. There were pieces of shrapnel, sundry bullets, military passports and many other things which added to the enjoyment by the audience of his lecture.

There are several very interesting philatelic cases being tried at the police courts just now, but as none of them have been concluded I will go more fully into them when judgment has been given. One concerns the alleged theft of stamps from several dealers by a young student and the others concern the sale of stamps supposed to be forgeries. Mr. M. P. Castle and Mr. E. D. Bacon have both been in the witness-box to give evidence, so there has been no little excitement caused by these cases in philatelic circles here.

The newspapers have been indulging in prophecies concerning the new British stamps. Some say that the portrait of King Edward will be facing the right as it is a custom for the portrait of a sovereign on the coinage of the realm to be turned in the opposite direction from that of his predecessor. As there is no question of precedent, however, in the case of stamps, the statement is probably nothing but a journalistic surmise.

March 5, 1901.

PROPRIETARY CANCELLATIONS.

CHARLES E. JENNEY.

I have already received a good many communications from collectors who it seems had already become interested in this line of collecting, giving me added information in regard to cancellations in existence and I wish to acknowledge especially the kindness of Mr. Fred E. Stiefel and Mrs. C. B. Freeborough. I shall continue my list in as much of alphabetical order as I can arrange it, hereafter.

A. R. B. Co. and date, all in two lines, red ink. Firm unknown. 2½.

The Antikamnia Chemical Co. surrounding in a large convex curve the monogram AK, with date below. 1¼, 2½, 3¾.

Aschenbach & Miller, date, and Philadelphia, Pa. in three lines of rather small type (mfgrs. of Bird Bitters). ⅝.

A. M. T. Co. and date, in two lines (inverted), American Trust Concern of Bridgewater, Conn. (sachet powder). ¼.

B. C. Co., A. C. Co. Successors. Beeman Chemical Co., American Circle Co., Successors. (Chewing gum). 4.

B. F. S. C. Co. Bromo Fruit Salt Chemical Co. ⅝, 4.

B. D. Co. and date in four lines, vertically. Firm unknown. ½.

C. B. R. & Co. and date in four lines, inverted, red ink. Unknown. ⅜.

C. & Co. and date in two lines Red. Firm unknown. 2½, 5. Sometimes the initials appear twice, at top and bottom, and sometimes the date appears twice, owing to the close setting.

C. M. M. and date in two lines, in black on 1, in red on 2. Unknown.

C. S. M. & Sons, date and Chicago in three lines in a quadrilateral in red ink. Firm unknown. ⅝.

C. W. & Co. and date in two lines in red. Firm unknown. 1¼.

C. C. Co. and date in two lines, diagonally. Firm unknown. 1¼.

C. M. Co. and date in two lines, red. Chamberlain Med. Co. ⅛.

C. M. Co. and date in three lines, red. Chamberlain Med. Co. ⅝.

C. K. & Co. Chester Kent & Co. 2½.

C. P. L. Crandall Pharmaceutical Laboratory. 2½.

C. I. H. & Co. and date in two lines of small thin capitals. Unknown. 2½.

D. B. and date in two lines in red. Firm unknown. ⅝.

D. D. Co. and year in two lines, large letters. Duquesne Distributing Co. ⅜.

Dr. D. J. & S. and date in two lines in large capitals. Dr. D. Jayne & Son. 2½.

Dr. B. J. K. Co. and date in two lines. Firm unknown, 2½.

D. & L. Co., Ltd. and date in two lines in red Unknown. ⅝.

E. F. & Co. and date in three lines. Firm unknown. 2½.

E. D. Co. and date in four lines, vertically down, red. Unknown. ⅛.

E. D. Co. date and New York in circle, red. Unknown. ⅝. 1¼.
It is possible that the three above are different forms of the Emerson Drug Co.

E. A. O. and date in two lines in red. Firm unknown. ⅝.

Emerson Drug Co. In the March ADHESIVE I described a ¼ value. I now find that there are also ⅝, 1¼ and 2½ in same style of type.

F. H. & G. and date in two lines in blue. Firm unknown. ⅛.

G. R. D. S. and date in two lines. Golden Rule Drug Store. ¼, ⅝.

G. M. C. Co. and date in two lines in red. Firm unknown. ⅝.

I shall be very glad to have any information in regard to the initials I have not been able to place or to hear of any additional ones.

On July 1st the proprietary tax on patent medicines is expected to be repealed and all of these stamps will gradually disappear, except such dead stock as stand on the druggist's shelves until the stamps become scarce enough for collectors to buy the package for the stamp.

(Mr. Jenney's address is Fresno, California.—ED.).

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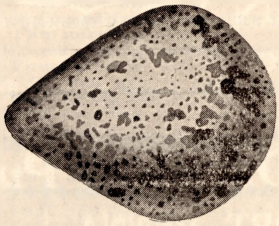

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